

Sherrod Brown, United States Senator *for* Ohio

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Promoting UAS Research & Development in the Miami Valley

Ohio has a rich history as a leader in the aviation and aerospace industries and Sen. Brown is working to ensure that the Miami Valley serves as a nerve center for technological development. During a meeting with former-Senator Chuck Hagel prior to his confirmation as Secretary of Defense, Sen. Brown urged him for his support in expanding research, training, and development of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in Ohio. UAS will play a critical role in border security measures, wildfire suppression, and search and rescue missions. Ohio's government research labs, top-tier universities, and vibrant private research sector make our state an ideal Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) test site.

In February 2011, Sen. Brown successfully amended the Federal Aviation



Sen. Brown urges U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel to support expanding research, training, and development of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in Ohio

Administration Reauthorization Act to increase the number of designated sites across the country that test UAS and save taxpayer dollars by ensuring sites selected have the infrastructure necessary to carry out these tests. In August 2012, he visited the UAS training center at Sinclair Community College to visit a training program for jobs in the UAS field.

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Bolstering the Housing Market by Addressing “Short Sale” Transactions

If Ohio is going to fully recover from the housing crisis, it must be easier for qualified candidates to purchase homes. With one-third of Montgomery County homeowners underwater on their mortgages, Sen. Brown unveiled a plan to improve the housing market by addressing “short sale” home sales—real estate transactions that must be approved by the bank because the seller owes more on their mortgage than the proposed sale price.



Sen. Brown visits Dayton to discuss ways to strengthen the housing market.

In a visit to Dayton in March, Sen. Brown outlined how the Prompt Notification of Short Sale Act would improve the process for both sellers and buyers in “short sale” transactions and bolster the housing market.

Sen. Brown was joined by Nicholas and Ellie Gusman, a Dayton couple whose home was on the market for months because of delays by the mortgage lender.

Providing Affordable Housing and Supporting Jobs in Butler County

Ohio families deserve to live in revitalized communities with affordable housing and accessible jobs. In February, a nonprofit organization in Butler County was awarded new federal resources to strengthen communities in the area. Sen. Brown announced that the Neighborhood Housing Partnership of Hamilton, Inc. was awarded funds to revitalize the communities in the area, promote affordable housing, and create or sustain jobs through local projects. The funds were awarded by NeighborWorks America, a Congressionally-created partnership between community, public, and private stakeholders that distributes funds which can be immediately used to improve



NeighborWorks recently awarded funds to the Neighborhood Housing Partnership of Hamilton, Inc. for community revitalization.

communities and create jobs. These funds will allow the Neighborhood Housing Partnership of Hamilton, Inc. to expand their reach to more Ohioans throughout the community and expand the range of services they provide.

Standing up for Workers at Appleton Papers

Foreign companies should not be allowed to get away with predatory pricing that undermines U.S. economic growth and shuts our factories. In March, Sens. Brown and Portman called on the U.S. Department of Commerce to protect manufacturing workers and jobs at Appleton Papers, Inc. in West Carrollton by imposing duties on a foreign paper producer. A preliminary investigation shows that the foreign company manipulated data to avoid paying antidumping duties, hurting domestic manufacturing at companies like Appleton, Inc. Dumping allows foreign paper companies to undersell U.S. companies, including Appleton Papers. As a result, manufacturing workers have lost jobs and communities have been forced to deal with plant closures.

Keeping Ohio Families Healthy

For too many Americans, a sick day means a day without pay. While medical professionals advise workers to stay home to avoid spreading the flu to others, too many Americans do not have a single paid sick day that they can use to care for themselves or to care for a sick family member. With flu season in full swing in January, Sen. Brown outlined efforts to ensure paid sick leave for workers and to keep Ohio families healthy. He was joined by Heather Rocco Geissler, CEO and co-owner of Challenge Aviation Products, to announce plans to cosponsor the Healthy Families Act, legislation which would allow workers to earn paid sick time while protecting business owners.

“Paid sick leave is vital for public health and also good for our economy,” Sen. Brown said, “That’s why I’m working to ensure that workers have access to paid sick leave.”

Calling for the Creation of a National Network for Manufacturing Innovation

American workers have the drive, the creative thinking, and the determination to out-innovate the rest of the world. Sen. Brown is working to ensure that they have the opportunity to do so.

Sen. Brown is drafting legislation to create a National Network of Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI), which would establish 15 hubs of manufacturing innovation so that the United States can out-innovate the rest of the world while creating thousands of high-paying, high-tech manufacturing jobs.

The proposal is designed to bring together industry, universities and community colleges, federal agencies and all levels of government to accelerate manufacturing innovation. It would establish public-private institutes to leverage investments in industrially-relevant manufacturing technologies. The institutes would focus on investments with broad applications to bridge the gap between



Sen. Brown visits the nation’s first advanced manufacturing hub located in Youngstown, calls for the creation of a proposed National Network of Manufacturing Innovation.

basic research and product development, provide shared assets to help companies – particularly small and medium-size manufacturing enterprises – access cutting-edge capabilities and equipment, and create an unparalleled environment to educate and train students and workers in advanced manufacturing skills.

The NNMI is modeled on the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute (NAMII) in Youngstown. Sen. Brown led the charge for this first advanced manufacturing hub to be located in Ohio. His efforts helped procure \$30 million in federal funding for the new hub in Youngstown,

which will be matched by \$40 million in private funds.

In March, Sen. Brown toured NAMII and called for the creation of a National Network of Manufacturing Innovation. Later in the month, Sens. Brown and Blunt successfully included an amendment to support the creation of a National Network of Manufacturing Innovation in the Senate-passed budget resolution.

Sen. Brown will continue to work to establish the infrastructure necessary to attract new investment in high-tech manufacturing and create thousands of high-paying jobs.

Sen. Brown's Office is Here to Serve You

Sen. Brown is committed to assisting Ohioans who have encountered difficulties with federal matters. Ohioans can call Sen. Brown's state offices and work directly with a constituent services representative to obtain information or resolve an issue they are having with a federal agency. Common areas of inquiry include: Social Security and Medicare benefits, veterans' benefits, military service issues, passport or visa problems, housing matters, IRS issues, and more.



Sen. Brown listens to an Ohio veteran

For example, a Southwest Ohio constituent contacted Sen. Brown's office about his disability claim, which was pending at the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review. Sen. Brown's office submitted an inquiry to the agency and monitored the progress of the claim. The constituent recently informed Sen. Brown's office that he received a favorable decision from the agency.

Another constituent, the son of a Southwest Ohio veteran, was concerned that the VA was delaying payments of his father's benefits. Her father resides at the Dayton VA in a live-in care program and was rated 100 percent disabled, but the back pay had not been paid while there were outstanding bills for his past care. Sen. Brown's office reached out to the VA and the payment was processed.



Sen. Brown enjoys Opening Day with Mr. RedLegs

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